Naxal violence

†1562. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Naxalite violence has been considered to be the highest threat to the internal security of the country;
 - (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the naxalites have killed maximum number of security personnel during 2005 and during past months of 2006; and
- (d) if so, the facts thereof and the estimated number of the persons active in this organization in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Naxalite menace remains an area of serious concern to internal security in the country.

- (c) As per available information, in naxal violence, 153 policemen were killed in 2005 and the number of such casualities is reported to be 133 till 30.11.2006.
- (d) The naxal movement has several groups/outfits through CPI (Maoist) is the main organization having a significant number of hard core cadres across the naxal affected States.

Arms acquisition by ULFA during ceasefire

†1563. SHRI RAJ JETHMALANI: DR. MÜRLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a ceasefire was announced by adopting a soft approach towards ULFA, engaged in violent activities in North Eastern States:
 - (b) if so, the duration of the ceasefire;

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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- (c) whether it is a fact that during the said ceasefire period ULFA succeeded in extortion of money and acquired arms, alongwith strengthening its organization; and
 - (d) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. RÉGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Government had declared unilateral Suspension of Operations (SoO) by Army against United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) from 13.8.2006 to 20.9.2006 with a view to create a conducive atmosphere for holding of peace talks.

(c) and (d) There was no direct response from ULFA and some inputs were received of regrouping, new raising, violence, collection of weapons/ explosives and extortion by ULFA cadres. Hence, Counter Insurgency operations against ULFA have been resumed.

Increase in Naxal Violence

†1564. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that naxalite violence has increased considerably in the country during the last three years;
 - (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
 - (c) whether it is a fact that this violence has soical and political grounds;
 - (d) if so, Government's reaction in this regard; and
- (e) whether Government have taken any social and political measures to combat naxalite violence, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As per available information, the details of naxalite violence from 2003 to 2006 (till 30.11.2006) are as under:

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.